

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 AID-05 /087 W
-----131159Z 047262 /43

R 131051Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE 6076
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EG, LY
SUBJECT: APPARENT CANCELLATION OF EGYPTIAN/LIBYAN MEETING

REF: CAIRO 9407

1. LOCAL DAILIES JUNE 13 REPORT THAT QADHAFI HAS
"SURPRISED" EGYPTIANS BY ABRUPT CANCELLATION OF
MEETING BETWEEN PM SALIM AND GENERAL PEOPLES COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN UBAYDI. DAILIES REPORT THAT QADHAVI ALLEGEDLY
REPUDIATED, AS BEING OVERLY "HASTY", MEDIATION EFFORTS
UNDERTAKEN BY CAR ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN BASHIR AL-RABTI.
AHAM AND GUMHURIYYA QUOTE "OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN SOURCE"
WHO COMMENTED THAT: (A) LIBYA HAD REQUESTED SALIM/
UBAYDI MEETING, NOT EGYPT; (B) EGYPT HAD ACCEPTED
MEETING IN VIEW OF "ITS HISTORICAL RESPONSIBILITIES
TOWARD ARAB NATION"; (C) EGYPT HAD ASSUMED THAT AL-RABTI
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WAS SPEAKING FOR QADHAFI, WHITH WHOM HE HAD MET BEFORE
COMING TO EGYPT; (D) EGYPT HAD ASSUMED THAT SINCE
LIBYA HAS NO PM THAT SALIM WOULD BE MEETING WITH UBAYDI;
AND (E) SINCE QADHAFI TERMED PLANS FOR MEETING "A RASH
STEP", IT IS LIBYANS WHO ARE GUILTY OF THIS RASHNESS
SINCE IT WAS LIBYANS WHO PROPOSED MEETING IN FIRST
PLACE.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HIGH LEVEL EGYPTIAN/LIBYAN DISCUSSIONS SEEMS TO HAVE FALLEN THROUGH, LOCAL DAILIES MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC SILENCE CONCERNING REASONS FOR QADHAFI'S APPARENT DECISION TO SCUTTLE TALKS. THERE IS NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT AND DAILIES CARRY NO ANTI-LIBYAN ARTICLES. IN FACT, GUM-HURIYYA EVEN NOTES IN FRONT PAGE SQUIB THAT QADHAFI PRAISED CARTER'S ME POLICY AND URGED AMERICAN ACCEPTANCE OF LIBYAN AMBASSADOR IN US. ANTI-LIBYAN PRESS CAMPAIGN MAY SOON REVIVE BYT EGYPTIANS APPARENTLY ARE AS SURPRISED BY THIS NEW WRINKLE AS DAILIES INDICATE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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